

The Fruit of Abiding

May 3, 2026

Main Passage: Mark 12:30; John 15:5; 2 Timothy 3:16-17

Theological Theme

Staying rooted in God's Word is a vital part of the Christian life.

Introduction

- ① What relationship came to mind for you in this section? How did you get to know that person?
- ② When you think of how you invest in your relationship with the Lord, what comes to mind?

1. All Your Mind (Mark 12:30)

A scribe approached Jesus and asked Him what the most important commandment was. This was a common point of discussion for rabbis in Jesus's day. They had counted 613 commandments from the Old Testament law in the books of Moses and sorted these into categories by perceived severity.

- ① Why do you think Jesus called this the most important commandment?
- ② How do we love the Lord in these ways?
- ③ Do you love God? This isn't a trick question. Reflect on it in the quiet of your own heart. How does this play out in your day-to-day?

2. All Scripture (2 Timothy 3:16-17)

We are commanded to love God with our minds, and a great way to do this is to read and study Scripture, but what makes this so useful? There are many benefits of establishing this practice in our lives.

- ① How did Paul say Scripture benefits believers in this passage?
- ② What does verse 17 teach about the purpose of Scripture in our lives?

- ❓ Paul further said that the Bible equips us for every good work. How have you seen the connection between love for the Scriptures and good works in your life?

3. Grounded (John 15:5)

In the Old Testament, God used the imagery of the vineyard and vine to represent His people. Isaiah 5 describes an attentive vineyard owner who worked hard to care for his vineyard but only received a bad harvest in return. That was the reality for God's people before Jesus came: They couldn't save themselves through the law, but it was never meant to be a permanent solution for bringing people into a right relationship with God—Jesus was.

- ❓ What does it mean that Jesus is the vine and we are the branches?
- ❓ How do we remain in Him daily?
- ❓ Jesus said apart from Him we can do nothing. Did he mean this literally? What does it mean?

Conclusion

Scripture is one of God's greatest gifts to us. He has lovingly preserved His Word for millennia for us. All Scripture is useful, not just the parts we feel like are fun to read. Every word in Scripture is inspired by God and needed. God uses His Word to teach us (and equip us to teach others), rebuke and correct us, and train us in right living so we are equipped for whatever we might face in this life.

- ❓ How do you currently show God love using your mind? Why is Scripture necessarily involved in this?
- ❓ How is reading and studying Scripture part of your current life rhythm? How could you give this more priority in your everyday life?
- ❓ How does a growing love for and knowledge of Scripture give us more motivation to share the gospel with others?